

TYPE SPECIES OF THE GENUS *CALYMENE* BRONGNIART
(TRILOBITA) IN BRONGNIART & DESMAREST, 1822 AND
PROPOSED SUPPRESSION OF THE NAME *TUBERCULATUS*
BRÜNNICH, 1781: RIDER TO Z.N.(S.)637

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Whittington (1983, p. 177, paragraph 7(2)) was incorrect in stating that *Calymena blumenbachii* Brongniart in Desmarest, 1817, was the type species of *Calymene*; it is the type species by original designation of *Calymena*, a name which it is requested be suppressed. *Calymene* Brongniart in Brongniart & Desmarest, 1822, was proposed (pp. 9–16) to include four species, *C. blumenbachii*, *C. tristani*, *C. variolaris*, and *C. macrophthalma* (presumably an inadvertent error, and should be written *C. macrophthalmus*). The designation of the type species of *Calymene* by Bassler (1915, p. 165) as *C. tuberculata* "Bronn." (The latter is presumably a misprint for "Brunn"., used on p. 476 by Bassler as an abbreviation for Brünnich) is invalid since this species was not originally included in the genus by Brongniart. The earliest valid selection of a type species known to us is that by Shirley (1933, p. 52–53) who chose the first-named species in Brongniart's list, *C. blumenbachii* Brongniart in Desmarest, 1817.

2. Shirley (1933) selected as lectotype of *C. blumenbachii* a well-preserved specimen used by Brongniart in his original description, and described it in detail. Shirley also drew attention to *C. tuberculata* (Brünnich, 1781) as an older name for the species *C. blumenbachii*, from the Silurian Wenlock Limestone (= Much Wenlock Limestone Formation) of Dudley, West Midlands, England. He examined the type material of *C. tuberculata* and considered it inadequate and the species as poorly described. Shirley therefore considered the name *tuberculata* for a species of *Calymene* 'must be allowed to fall' (Shirley, 1933, p. 53). In earlier years continental authors (Lindström, 1885, p. 63; Schmidt, 1907, p. 53; Kegel, 1927, p. 619, text fig. 2a) had used the name *tuberculata* rather than *blumenbachii* for species of *Calymene* of this type from the Silurian Wenlock Limestone. Since Shirley's work in 1933, however, authors (for example Whittington, 1959, p. 0 452; Campbell, 1967, p. 24; Haas, 1968, pp. 97–100; Schrank, 1970, pp. 134–8; Siveter, 1983, p. 70) have followed him and used the name *C. blumenbachii* for the type species of the genus; R. and E. Richter, (1954, p. 19) cited *C. tuberculata* as a synonym of *C. blumenbachii*.

3. Siveter (1986) has re-examined and described in detail the type material of *C. tuberculata* and *C. blumenbachii*, and shown that these

specimens are very similar and should be regarded as belonging to a single species. Both lectotypes come from the Much Wenlock Limestone Formation of the Dudley area, England. Thus there is now strong subjective evidence that the two names are synonyms. In the interests of stability in nomenclature the desirable course is to legalise the practice advocated by Shirley, a practice that has been followed by authors during the past 50 years.

4. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked, in addition to the requests 1-4 in paragraph 7 of Whittington, 1983:

- (1) to note that the type species, *Calymena blumenbachii* Brongniart in Desmarest, 1817, of the genus *Calymene* Brongniart, 1822, was not originally designated by Brongniart, but subsequently designated by Shirley, 1933, p. 53;
- (2) to use its plenary powers to suppress the specific name *tuberculatus*, published in the binomen *Trilobus tuberculatus* Brünnich, 1781 (p. 389), for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.

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